

[0066] At step 703, the indicator can be removed from the surgery procedure verification card 120. In this illustrative embodiment, this is accomplished by lifting a corner of the indicator and pulling it across a major face of the surgery procedure verification card 120. The result is an indicator 301 that is separate from the surgery procedure verification card 120, as shown at step 704. The healthcare services provider can then place the indicator 301 in the patient's medical record 706, as shown at step 705. Had the indicator 301 not been detachable from the surgery procedure verification card, another option would have been to simply place the entire surgery procedure verification card 120 in the patient's medical record 706.

[0067] Turning now to FIG. 8, illustrated therein is a flow chart depicting a method 800 of using a surgical gown 100 in accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention. It should be understood that the method 800 of FIG. 8 is illustrative only, as other methods could be used as well. Further, most of the steps shown in FIG. 8 have been described above, so will only be briefly described here.

[0068] Where the surgical gown (100) was included in a surgical pack (400) the packaging can be opened at step 801. Step 801 can optionally include the step of identifying the surgical gown (100) from a color-coding indicative of the surgery procedure verification card (120) being attached thereto.

[0069] At step 802, the surgical gown (100) is applied to a surgeon. The surgeon can don the gown with a surgery procedure verification card (120) attached thereto, and can detach the surgery procedure verification card (120) from the surgical gown (100) at step 803. Alternatively, step 803 can occur before step 802, with step 802 forming the final step of the method 800 of FIG. 8.

[0070] At step 804, compliance with the predetermined procedure, using the surgery procedure verification card (120), can be verified prior to beginning a surgical procedure. At step 805, this verification can be recorded. Illustrative actions for completing steps 804 and 805 were shown and described with respect to FIG. 7 above. Where the indicator (301) is removable from the surgery procedure verification card (120), the indicator (301) can be removed at step 806. One embodiment of step 806 was illustratively shown in FIG. 7. At step 807, either the indicator (301) or the surgery procedure verification card (120) can be placed in a patient's medical record (706).

[0071] Parallel steps can be included where the surgical gown (100) is included in a surgical pack (400) that includes a surgical drape (440). For example, at step 808, the surgical drape (440) may be placed over at least a part of a patient (500). Where the surgical drape (440) comprises a fenestration (443) and a barrier (444) that is removably attached to the surgical drape (440), the barrier (444) can be removed at step 809 after compliance with the predetermined procedure is verified. As with the surgery procedure verification card (120), the barrier (444) or an indicator that is removably attached thereto can be placed in the patient's medical record (706) at step 807.

[0072] Turning now to FIG. 9, illustrated therein is one method of manufacturing a surgical gown (100) in accordance with embodiments of the invention. As the general manufacture of the gown itself was described above, the method 900 of FIG. 9 will begin with a completed gown and then focus on the subsequent steps, including the packaging and shipment steps. However, the general manufacture step

901 is included in the method 900 for illustration. Note that this step 901 can include color-coding the surgical gown (100), where the color-coding is indicative of either a barrier level or the fact that a removable surgery procedure verification card is attached to the surgical gown (100).

[0073] At step 902, a surgery procedure verification card (120) can be attached to the surgical gown (100). As noted above, in one embodiment the surgery procedure verification card (120) is attached so as to be removable by a user for facilitation of a start of a surgical procedure after a predetermined procedure is completed, and optionally documented.

[0074] At optional step 903, the surgical gown (100) can be assembled with one or more surgical procedure gowns (401, 402). In one embodiment, the one or more surgical procedure gowns (401, 402) are not color-coded and do not include surgery procedure verification cards attached thereto. At optional step 904, the surgical gown (100) can be assembled with a surgical drape (440) having a fenestration to be placed over a surgical site of a patient and a barrier, removably attached to the surgical drape (440) and adapted for placement over a portion of the fenestration. As described above, the barrier (444) can be configured to prevent the start of the surgical procedure until the predetermined procedure is completed.

[0075] At step 905, the assembly can be placed into packaging and sealed as a surgical pack (400). In one embodiment, the surgical pack (400) is sterile and the packaging is configured to keep the contents sterile until opened and ready for use.

[0076] In the foregoing specification, specific embodiments of the present invention have been described. However, one of ordinary skill in the art appreciates that various modifications and changes can be made without departing from the scope of the present invention as set forth in the claims below. Thus, while preferred embodiments of the invention have been illustrated and described, it is clear that the invention is not so limited. Numerous modifications, changes, variations, substitutions, and equivalents will occur to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the following claims. Accordingly, the specification and figures are to be regarded in an illustrative rather than a restrictive sense, and all such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of present invention. The benefits, advantages, solutions to problems, and any element(s) that may cause any benefit, advantage, or solution to occur or become more pronounced are not to be construed as a critical, required, or essential features or elements of any or all the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A gown comprising:
 - a body-covering portion; and
 - a procedure verification card, removably attached to the gown, and configured to facilitate a start of a medical procedure after completion of a predetermined procedure presented on the procedure verification card.
2. The gown of claim 1, wherein the procedure verification card is configured to facilitate verification of completion of the predetermined procedure presented on the procedure verification card.
3. The gown of claim 1, wherein the procedure verification card comprises an indicator upon which confirmation of completion of the predetermined procedure presented on the procedure verification card can be recorded.